

divided into occasional doses, and more time exists in which it can be tried from the longer duration of the case. In order to obtain a cure from the bean in poisoning by strychnia, not only should the dose of the latter be comparatively small, but, as in tetanus from injury, the remedy must be employed early, else the destructive influence upon innervation or nervous structure may be too far gone to overtake.

Calabar Bean has been used at Prague in poisoning by belladonna, and it is affirmed with benefit. Vomiting was induced, or promoted if present, and then the bean administered. I suppose the contrary action of the two agents upon the iris prompted this use. There are, however, no real antagonisms between them upon the same part of the nervous system, as between strychnia and Calabar Bean. Each affects a different organ, belladonna is a cerebrant and the bean a spinant. Little hope, therefore, can be entertained of any such benefit being had from Calabar Bean in poisoning by belladonna as in poisoning by strychnia.

I may mention that the bean was used in 1863, for the first time, by Dr. Harley in Chorea, and successfully. In this affection a moderate dose three times a day is sufficient, and there is no need of producing the physiological action of the drug as in the treatment of tetanus.

I may also mention, in conclusion, that Calabar Bean has been prescribed in epilepsy, and as a vascular or cardiac sedative in erysipelas, acute bronchitis, rheumatic fever and other disorders, in none of which, in my opinion, it has any superiority over the remedies usually exhibited, and is not even their equal.

And lastly, Calabar Bean might be found advantageous in some cases of acute myelitis, cerebro-spinal meningitis, spinal irritation, and hypercænetic states of the spinal cord, which suggest themselves to me as a more likely group for its good service than the last mentioned.*

* I would refer those who wish to read more about this interesting agent to the communications of Dr. T. R. Fraser, *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, 1863; *Idem*, December, 1867; *Practitioner*, August, 1868; Dr. Harley and others, *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, 1863; Dr. E. Watson, *Idem*, May, 1867; Dr. J. B. Edwards and other, *Pharmaceutical Journal*, 1864-65; to whom I am much indebted for information afforded.—W. W.

Messrs. K. Campbell & Co., Medical Hall, have a stock of the beans, and will supply preparations that may be ordered.